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Trampoline park makes shoppers Flip Out

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Charges for bus passes and tips proposed to cover cuts

By Eva Astreinidou

A MEETING on major budget cuts turned into a bitter political battle between parties.

Tory councillors said proposals to slash the budget by £140million were a 'fact of life' but said at the Hampshire County Council meeting last week they are still looking for alternatives.

In a heated debate, Lib Dem and Labour councillors spoke against the proposals, suggesting the council should fight back against the austerity imposed by central government.

Speaking after the meeting, Conservative Hampshire County Council leader Roy Perry said: "Conservatives are actively offering solutions whilst all Lib Dems and Labour are doing is moaning."

The proposals could mean that a charge of £10 on older persons' five-year bus passes and a £1 fee to use household waste tips are introduced.

It is hoped that the bus fee would help maintain community transport by raising a potential £500,000, while the charge to use waste tips would potentially generate £4million to help keep tip opening hours as they are.

Previous proposals included reducing school crossing patrols, cutting library staff as well as closing half of the county's recycling and waste centres – but the council hopes it has viable alternatives to reduce the impact to services as much as possible.

During the meeting, the Lib Dems submitted amendments that were not carried through.

Tory councillor for Basingstoke South West, Stephen Reid, said: "This [situation] is a fact of life. [If you are not offering viable alternatives] I think you are failing in your duty."

He added that the council has until February to look for alternatives where it can, before a public consultation takes place.

During the meeting, many councillors voiced concerns that introducing a charge for waste tips could mean an increase in fly tipping.

Many also spoke out about proposals to charge more for buses, saying it could have a severe impact and lead to social isolation for many people.

Cllr Keith House, Liberal Democrat leader of Eastleigh borough council, said: "This is a dark, dark day for this county and the people of our communities. We need to approach central government again.

"We are talking about reducing quality of health and people's livelihoods, effectively shortening people's lives and reducing people's wealth."

Labour Cllr Michael Westbrook, for Basingstoke central, fully supported the statements, adding: "We find ourselves in this position when we were assured years ago that the Tory government were the ones who would clear the deficit.

"Their administration has been one of constant austerity and not enough investment."

Chefs demonstrated and discussed the menu and right, Jasmine and Poppy show off their meatballs

Children just Love2Cook!

Children rolled their own meatballs and made delicious puddings from scratch as part of a cooking club in Basingstoke this week.

Kids taking part in Inspero's Love2Cook programme, which teaches young people how to prepare and cook nutritious meals, cooked up a storm on Monday evening.

They listened attentively to tips on how to cook their food and how to choose healthy and local ingredients to create the perfect dish.

The club hosts cooking classes all over Basingstoke for £2 or £3 per person.

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Youngsters set to flip out over skatepark approval

By Eva Astreinidou

A SKATEPARK will be built in Rooksdown after years of campaigning to bring the plans to life.

The new facility at Rooksdown Park will feature an array of ramps, steps and pipes as well as a solar-powered youth shelter that will allow users to play their music using speakers and a Bluetooth system.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough council granted permission for the park after years of campaigning for funding and amendments to get planning consent.

The original idea for a skatepark in the area was put forward by Rooksdown parish councillor Jonathan Payne in 2014, who used to be a skater himself.

Cllr Payne even launched a petition at the time, with more than 350 signing in support of plans to bring the skatepark to life.

The petition read: "This is an opportunity for the development to contribute something back, not just to the local community, but to the whole of Basingstoke by offering a new and different place to ride, adding greater value to Basingstoke's existing provision for these sports – and offering more variation to youth throughout Basingstoke."

Rooksdown ward councillor and skatepark advocate Simon Bound said the park could help prevent anti-social behaviour in the area.

Cllr Bound said: "Working towards getting the skatepark does seem to have taken a very long time."

A council survey in 2015 found more than 70 per cent of responders said the park would give younger residents a 'creative outlet'.

Once the consultation had finished, Cllr Payne conducted discussions with an online user group of local people of all ages and helped secure funding from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

Cllr Bound added: "It is a major change for the borough to have a concrete skatepark which should create less noise and a reduced lifetime cost. Young people also tell us that concrete is much better for developing skills and tricks."

Bendcrete Leisure Ltd have yet to set a date for construction to start.

Help needed to fund survival of The Vyne

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to save a historic Hampshire landmark are asking for support from the public to help them cross the finish line.

The Vyne, a 16th century country house near Basingstoke, has been undergoing a £5.4million renovation to its roof to secure its future as a National Trust property.

The venue's unique roof conservation project, which has attracted more than 109,000 visitors to its rooftop walkway since March, is in a race against time to win votes by November 21 to get vital funding for the project.

With enough votes cast, this former Tudor 'powerhouse' would be entered into the finals of the Aviva community fund competition, where a judging panel could award funding that will help ensure its survival.

Stuart Maughan, The Vyne's general manager, said: "This is a vital project to save a Tudor gem for generations to come. The new roof will protect The Vyne's collection and historic interiors including its original Tudor chapel, Oak Gallery and 18th-century neo-classical staircase hall."

Keen supporters managed to raise a staggering £47,918 to help the project along, through initiatives like Tag-a-Tile where visitors wrote messages and drew pictures on tiles destined for the new roof for £5 each.

The rooftop walkway will be open daily until January 31.

Repair work progressing on The Vyne's roof, with the walkway in the background. Picture: National Trust

Once the roof has been finished, it will take around three months for the scaffolding to be taken down.

To vote, visit https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/.

News Bites

ATM theft bid

FOUR men broke into a Co-op and tried to steal an ATM machine from inside the store.

Police are appealing for help from the public in tracking down the offenders following the incident in High Street, Odiham just before 1am on Monday.

Four men forced entry to the shop and an unsuccessful attempt was made to steal an ATM machine inside the store.

Police are also looking at whether this incident is linked to the theft of an ATM machine, also in High Street, that took place between 1.40am and 1.45am on Saturday.

The machine, located inside a converted phone box, was forcibly removed and a quantity of cash was taken.

If you can help, call 101 quoting 44170431663.

Youths stab man

A MAN had a lucky escape after he was stabbed and robbed by three youths.

Police are appealing for witnesses after the incident in Basingstoke on October 28 between 3.30pm and 5.15pm.

The 37-year-old man was walking near the junction of Diana Close and Elizabeth Road when three youths, one pushing a cycle, approached him.

One snatched his mobile and another grabbed his silver necklace with a black cross. He was then stabbed in the abdomen with an unknown implement.

Passers-by came to the man's aid and he was treated in hospital for his injury which turned out not to be serious.

The youths were all male and aged between 17 and 20. They were all wearing black hoodies with their faces masked.

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Shaping the future of borough

By Eva Astreinidou

BASINGSTOKE and Deane could look like a completely different place beyond 2050.

Local officials brainstormed ideas of a future vision for the borough in an event at Basing View, ahead of a consultation with the public that will take place in the new year.

It is hoped events like this will help set the direction for the county's future in a wider project Horizon 2050 which will look at areas such as transport, jobs, wellbeing and health, sustainability, local services and the impact of technology.

The borough council hopes to formally adopt the project in spring 2018 to help attract investment from central government.

Council leader Clive Sanders said the plan needs to be 'made for the community by the community'.

He said: "Predicting the future is uncertain and complex, but Horizon 2050 aims to build on the shared commitment to create the very best borough we can.

"It is no good the council drawing up a vision on its own. The vision is not about where new facilities, homes and roads should go, but about what sort of a place we want the borough to be and what we need in place to get there.

"It was great to see the creative and imaginative ideas coming out of the event at this initial stage of engagement."

The aim of the project is to help revitalise certain areas and promote a 'strong, clear and compelling identity' for the area as one of the 'south east's strongest and most connected towns'.

Chair of the Basingstoke strategic partnership Anthony Bravo said: "Basingstoke and Deane is a great place to live today thanks to the vision and bold long-term decisions taken in the 1960s, 70s and 80s, which brought well thought-out infrastructure and facilities.

"We now face similar choices about the future and want to involve as many people as possible in setting a clear vision and framework for making good decisions about what is important and right for the future of the borough."

Man rescued after crane fell into side of building

A MAN had to be rescued after becoming trapped when a 27-tonne crane fell into the side of a building.

Fire crews pulled the man from the cab after it fell onto the house in Pitman Close last Thursday around 9.50am.

The man fortunately was not injured.

A spokesperson for Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service said: "Five vehicles from Basingstoke fire station were called to the property on Pitman Close.

"The aerial ladder platform was used to help extricate the man trapped in the cab who fortunately escaped injury."

Dramatic pictures show the accident. Pictures: SCAS

Members of the crew remained on the scene to stabilise the building which was under construction.

News Bites

Forces travel free

ARMED forces personnel will be able to travel for free in Basingstoke on Remembrance Sunday.

Stagecoach South is offering free travel to personnel and veterans carrying ID for all routes in the town on November 12.

Routes 1 to 16 will all be free on the day.

Stagecoach South will also be placing a poppy on 250 buses across Hampshire, West Sussex and Surrey.

Train derails

A BUSY commuter train which left Basingstoke early on Monday morning derailed near Wimbledon.

The rear carriage of the South Western Railway train, believed to have departed from Basingstoke for London Waterloo at 4.54am, derailed at low speed as the train was leaving Wimbledon station at around 6am.

Around 300 people were on board with four reported to have sustained minor injuries.

None of the four injured required hospital treatment.

Emergency services were called and the incident was declared over by 9.10am.

Have your say online

Four arrested after break-in at solar farm

FOUR people have been arrested after a break-in at a solar farm near Basingstoke.

Three men aged 22, 27, and 54, as well as a 17-year-old boy, were arrested in connection with the incident in Overton on November 2.

Officers were called to reports of a break-in at the farm and saw a transit-style van leaving the farm.

They followed the van before stopping it on Monks Way, Eastleigh.

A 54-year-old man from Offenham, Worcestershire, was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to commit a burglary other than a dwelling with intent to steal and failing to stop.

Officers also arrested a 17-year-old boy from Yateley, a 22-year-old and a 27-year-old, both from Gloucestershire, the following day in connection with this incident.

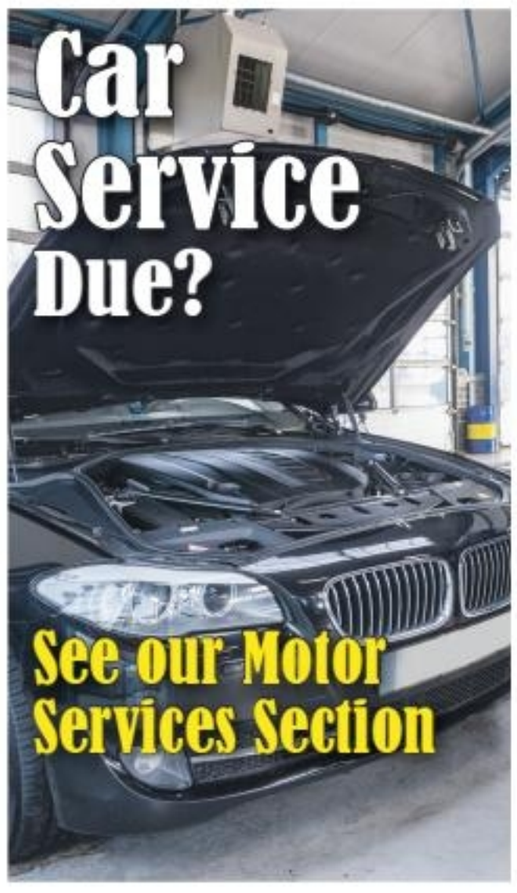
All four people are currently in custody.

The operation, led by Hampshire police Country Watch team, was carried out as a response to concerns raised about rural crime, such as theft and poaching.

A number of gamekeepers and landowners were spoken to and crime prevention advice given.

Sergeant Andy Williams from the Country Watch team, said: "We know how devastating illegal activities, such as theft and poaching, can be to rural communities, and we regularly carry out operations targeting those who seek to benefit illegally from other people's livelihoods."

If you have any information, call 101.



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Kelly braves the shave to help bereavement charity

A 43-year-old woman shaved her hair off to raise nearly £5,000 for a charity close to her heart.

Kelly Freeman, from Basingstoke, braved the shave at her local Sainsbury's in memory of her dad who died when she was only three years old.

She raised £4,950 for her efforts for the charity Child Bereavement UK, which helps support children and parents going through a loss.

Speaking about the decision to go ahead with the shave, she said: "I'm scared of heights so knew I didn't want to do an abseil or jump out of a plane, but my hair will grow back."

Kelly said she knew she had to do something for the charity as she did not have the same form of support available to her when she was younger.

She said: "Child Bereavement UK wasn't around when I was younger and I'm sure there are so many other people who would benefit from support, if they knew the charity existed."

Ruth Sanger, regional fundraising and communications manager at Child Bereavement UK said: "We are so grateful to Kelly for choosing to shave her head in aid of Child Bereavement UK; a fantastic way to raise funds and awareness. Without public support, we wouldn't be able to help families to rebuild their lives when a child dies or when a child grieves."

In a charity double whammy, Kelly's hair has been given to the Little Princess charity so it can be turned into a wig for someone going through chemotherapy.

MP: More needs to be done to stamp out sexual harassment

By Eva Astreinidou

BASINGSTOKE'S MP is pushing for more action on the issue of sexual harassment and sexual violence, saying it isn't just a problem for the 'elite and powerful'.

Maria Miller warned there is a risk that media frenzy surrounding cases in Westminster could take attention away from the fact that ordinary women and girls face 'sleazy activity every day of the week'.

Speaking to the Women and Equalities committee, which she chairs, she said it's important to look at safeguarding girls in school and women in the workplace.

She added: "I really worry that it isn't at all a window of opportunity that everybody paints it as, because it is now becoming pigeonholed as being something that happens to those people up there; it happens in parliament, it happens in Hollywood.

"But it doesn't, it happens every day to women in this country and we cannot hive it off as being something that happens in the elite and the powerful and the rich and famous. It isn't."

Ms Miller also called for compulsory sex and relationship education to come into effect immediately.

Last Thursday's debate followed a committee hearing last month in which schools' minister Nick Gibb MP confirmed current guidance does not state specifically that children who sexually abuse other children at school should not be put back in the same classroom.

At the time, Ms Miller said it is "appalling that young women are being put back in class with young men who have assaulted them".

She said: "When we pressed the minister about this, he said very clearly that that was unacceptable.

"You would never expect a victim to have to then go and work alongside a perpetrator.

"We have to challenge that culture of acceptance if we're really going to make any change here."

A year ago, the committee produced a report on sexual harassment in schools, which found almost a third of 16-18-year-old girls had experienced unwanted sexual touching at school.

Last month, Ms Miller said she had herself experienced 'numerous' instances of sexual harassment.

Man attacked by Halloween gang in masks

A 44-year-old man was attacked on Halloween by a group of men in facemasks.

Police are looking for witnesses following the incident in Basingstoke on October 31 between 8.05pm and 8.20pm.

The victim was walking through Victory Park in the direction of Brookvale Village Hall when he was approached by a group of around seven men.

The victim was then punched and kicked by the group who searched his bag and jacket during the incident.

Nothing was stolen and the victim sustained bruising as a result.

The group were described as being dressed all in black, and wearing some form of face masks.

Sergeant Steve Jones, of Western Investigations, said: "We are aware that there were other people in the park around the time of this incident.

"We are particularly keen to speak with two women and a man who spoke with the victim immediately after the incident to check if he was alright, as they may have key information to assist our enquiries."

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MP celebrates diversity of town with visits

BASINGSTOKE'S MP celebrated the town's fashion heritage and its 'increasingly diverse' community.

Maria Miller visited the town's mosque and took time to peruse the town's Burberry collection.

The MP met with Imam Mohammed and members of the local Muslim community, emphasising the importance of working with the community and giving it a 'strong voice' in the borough.

Speaking after the meeting, she said: "It was wonderful to have the opportunity to meet with Imam Mohammed and members of the local Muslim community here in Basingstoke.

"The mosque has an important role to play in an increasingly diverse Basingstoke."

The MP also took time from her busy schedule to visit the Hampshire Cultural Trust to view their Burberry collection.

The world-renowned fashion brand started its origins in Winchester Street in 1856, after 21-year-old Thomas Burberry set up a draper's shop there.

His clientele included the local market town population who traditionally made their own clothes, the agricultural community who required durable outerwear, and increasingly, those with large country estates in and around Hampshire.

Mrs Miller said: "It was wonderful to see how this Basingstoke company developed a product of worldwide renown which lives on today.

"The collection shows how this Basingstoke entrepreneur developed a product used by soldiers during the war and also catered for a wide range of customers throughout the world.

Maria Miller met members of the Muslim community at the mosque

Force leading employer for ethnic groups

HAMPSHIRE police have been named as one of the UK's best employers for race.

They had to prove they are taking action to create inclusive workplace cultures to be considered for the scheme that was launched earlier this year.

The scheme includes 65 public and private sector organisations who represent the best employers for black, Asian and minority ethnic people in the UK.

Olivia Pinkney, Chief Constable of Hampshire said: "I am delighted Hampshire Constabulary has been recognised. Diversity is a trait of high-performing organisations, and it is important we build relationships across all of our communities and are a force that is truly representative of those we serve."

She added: "When I joined the force in 2016, I was aware that our work around black and minority ethnic recruitment, retention and progression needed more support."

Sandra Kerr OBE, Race Equality Director at Business in the Community, said: "Congratulations to Hampshire Constabulary on being named in the first ever best employers for race listing. If employers truly want their workplaces to reflect the clients, communities and customers they serve, the time to act is now."

Glamp it up at new luxury site

By Eva Astreinidou

GLAMPING is coming to the Basingstoke and Deane countryside despite numerous objections to the plans.

Plans to build six 'glamping pods', or living vans, for overnight accommodation at Browning Hill Green, near Tadley, were approved in a meeting last Wednesday.

The application was called in following a number of objections, including its locations on a blind bend in Church Road, its impact on the rural setting, and the possibility of it being further developed in the future.

Speaking after the meeting, Baughurst and Tadley North councillor Robert Tate said: "I do continue to have personal concerns over the application.

"My personal concerns over this and similar applications are the change of land use away from agriculture and the potential change of environment that residents in areas like Baughurst have enjoyed in the past and would like to protect for the future."

Ahead of the meeting, there were numerous letters of objections from members of the public.

The meeting was deferred to November after councillors requested a site visit.

Councillors previously heard from the applicant Alan Gibbs on how he proposed to build six pods with amenities and use the existing barn to store equipment.

Mr Gibbs said: "I feel it will be a positive addition to the local area and help the economy of the local area as well as allowing families and disabled people to enjoy the tourist attractions of the area.

"I want it to be for all people, but I also want it to be a high-profile adventure. I love the area and I do not want to spoil it."

Alongside letters of objection, there were also comments supporting the plans, saying the development would bring a different type of tourism to the area.

A statement from planning agent DGG Planning said: "The use of this land as a glamping site would provide a peaceful and relaxing environment in which visitors can use the pods or living vans.

"The pods, amenity cabin and site managers' accommodation are all moveable and as such would be placed on to the site.

"Whilst it is considered the glampsite would prove a viable rural business, if it was not shown to be viable after three years, they could all easily be removed with minimal impact on their setting."

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Wow! Hospital workers really deserve awards

By Eva Astreinidou

A RECORD amount of hospital workers were celebrated in awards based on nominations from colleagues, patients and visitors.

A special WOW! Awards lunch hosted by the Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation honoured workers for their compassion, dedication and professionalism.

Staff on The Candover Suite at Basingstoke hospital received a record amount of 50 nominations, while staff working in the Women's Health Unit at Basingstoke hospital and St Cross Ward at Winchester hospital were nominated a total of 100 times.

Judit Grill, who works in the antenatal clinic at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, was one of the remarkable workers recognised for their care and dedication.

During a shift, Ms Grill had been called in to help translate when a woman in labour was having difficulty communicating with midwives on the labour ward.

Without hesitation, she stepped in and ensured that the woman, who was Hungarian, understood vital information about procedures and pain relief.

She said: "I was just pleased to be able to help the lady in any way I could because she was a bit anxious. She was really grateful when I saw her again after she had given birth and it was nice to know that I had made a difference for her."

Judit Grill with Donna Green, Hampshire Hospitals' chief nurse Donna Green, during the event in October

Speaking about the award, she said: "I was really surprised when I heard I had been nominated for a WOW! Award, so I really couldn't believe it when I was told I had won."

Other winners included the safeguarding children team at the Basingstoke hospital, who were nominated for their hard work on a particularly challenging case.

Kim Leitch, from the WOW! Awards, presented staff with their certificates.

Chairman of Hampshire Hospitals Elizabeth Padmore said: "I'm so incredibly proud of all of you. I know a lot of you say that you are just doing your jobs, but it is doing your jobs so well that makes a massive difference to our patients. Thank you so much. You are all brilliant."

Staff can be nominated for a WOW! Award throughout the year, with a handful of winners selected by the trust's public governors each month.

Shoppers flip out at new trampoline park

SHOPPERS were transported to a whole new world and had the chance to explore a new trampoline park before it opens.

Taking up residency in Basingstoke's Festival Place shopping centre, staff from Flip Out Basingstoke gave shoppers the chance to have a sneak preview of the new facility through a virtual reality headset.

Visitors to the pop-up stall enjoyed a walk around the new leisure attraction and saw the facilities before it opens later this year.

The 25,000 sq ft attraction features a laser maze, 30ft cyber towers, 25ft super slides and a NinjaTAG assault course.

Also on the stand is a full-size padded Lamborghini which will be the centrepiece of the new park's free-running stunt-box zone.

Jon Inwards, CEO of Flip Out UK, said: "The actual trampoline park is currently being assembled, but [we invited] the public to come along and get a sneak peak inside."

Jake (right) takes a virtual tour of new trampoline park Flip Out Basingstoke assisted by staff member Olly Horwood with the Lamborghini which will be the centrepiece of the free-running stunt-box zone

Flip Out Basingstoke also launched its Design A Villain competition, which is open to local schools in the Basingstoke area.

The objective is to design an arch-enemy for the company's Flip Out Ninja character. The winning image will be transformed into life-sized artwork to go on display at the new attraction.

The winner's entire class will have a free session at the trampoline park and £200 for their school.

News Bites

Music night for funds

BASINGSTOKE'S ladies football team are hosting a night of acoustic music to raise much-needed funds.

The event at Camrose Clubhouse, which will also feature a raffle, will kick off at 7pm on November 24.

All proceeds from the night will go towards kit, facilities, equipment, referees and the general running of the club after it lost its sponsor.

Entry fee is £5.

For more information, visit https://tinyurl.com/y8vkq6wc.

Mayor's charities

THE Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane is looking for charities to sponsor during his year in office.

Keen to support smaller groups in the borough that may need funding, Cllr Paul Frankum will be raising money for a 'Mayor's Community Chest' to be shared out between groups.

Any groups that want to be considered need to apply for a share of the funds by December 22.

Up to £1,000 will be awarded to successful organisations.

To apply, visit https://tinyurl.com/

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Mock attack helps to prepare 999 services

By Eva Astreinidou

MORE than 100 people took part in terror attack scenarios as part of a large-scale training exercise.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service carried out Exercise Titanium with people across different agencies tackling a fire in a block of flats and an attack in a restaurant with large numbers of people being seriously injured.

The annual fire service exercise tested all aspects of response with teams from South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) and Hampshire Constabulary also taking part.

The scenario was based on a group of terrorists storming a block of flats and attacking the occupants with knives then setting the building on fire.

The attackers then moved onto a nearby restaurant where they attacked around 50 people.

Station Manager Jim Clarke, who spent more than three months putting the exercise together, said: "The exercise went very well and has been extremely challenging for all of those involved, as it was designed to be.

"The chance to practice large scale incidents like this is invaluable to the emergency services and ultimately means we will all be better prepared if we ever have to do it for real."

To make the exercise as realistic as possible, the Station Manager even involved the Casualty Union, which provided 'live casualties' with very realistic injuries.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority chairman Chris Carter, who observed the exercise, said: "Watching how the crews performed under deliberately challenging conditions makes you appreciate the quality and dedication of Hampshire firefighters.

"These exercises are extremely important in ensuring the service is prepared for anything and making the public assured that we are always working to make them even safer."

Warm, positive atmosphere at care home

A CARE home in Basingstoke has retained a 'good' rating from a national watchdog.

Willow Tree Lodge, in Kempshott Lane, has been rated as 'good' in five categories by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), after an inspection last month.

The care home managed to retain the same rating it received at the last inspection in 2015.

The unannounced inspection took place on September 11 and 12 this year, with CQC inspectors looking at all aspects of the care provided, including leadership and safety.

Inspectors observed how staff interacted and cared for people across the course of the day, speaking with members of staff and to relatives of people at the home.

In the report, inspectors said there was a 'warm and positive atmosphere' at the facility.

They added: "People were relaxed and reassured by the presence of staff.

"People's independence was promoted and support workers encouraged them to do as much for themselves as possible.

"Staff treated people with dignity and respect and were sensitive to their needs.

"People were encouraged and enabled to be involved as much as possible in making decisions about how their support needs were met."

The home helps people with severe to profound learning disabilities and autism.

It is owned and run by Liaise Loddon, which provides various care services in Basingstoke and beyond.

All 10 services managed by Liaise Loddon are rated as 'good' by the CQC, with Sansa House in Cliddesden Road, rated as 'outstanding'.

The provider is currently in the process of building another facility in Tadley, due to be finished next year.

News Bites

New fire chief

AN interim deputy chief fire officer has been appointed for Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Current assistant chief officer Andy Bowers, who has been with HFRS for more than 30 years, will start the role on January 1.

The dad-of-three, from Gosport, is the national lead for the National Fire Chiefs Council and is a key figure in shaping industry policy and best practice.

The 54-year-old has a master's degree in business and a further master's degree in crisis and disaster management.

Tips for tummies

TUMMY bugs can spread easily in the chilly winter months and a medical group in Hampshire has issued advice to help parents and children.

The North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group has offered tips to parents as tummy bugs such as gastroenteritis can be very unpleasant for young children.

They advised parents to encourage regular hand washing and to discourage sharing towels.

Parents are also advised not to send children back to school until 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.

For more information, visit https://tinyurl.com/y9mzcg6k.

Fix your tattoo?

A REALITY TV show is looking for the country's most shocking, outrageous and embarrassing tattoos in Basingstoke.

E4's Tattoo Fixers is back for a fifth series and is looking for participants in the town who are looking to cover a regrettable tattoo with a fresh, less embarrassing one.

To apply, visit https://tinyurl.com/yd8tnlsd.

New Store Opening Soon

The Edinburgh Woollen Mill®

Avenue Nurseries Garden Centre
Avenue Road, Lasham, Alton, GU34 5SU

The Edinburgh Woollen Mill set to open new store in Alton

The Edinburgh Woollen Mill is investing in a new store located in Avenue Nurseries Garden Centre, Alton. The store will open on Thursday 16 November at 9am.

Staff will greet the first 20 customers to make a purchase in store with an Edinburgh Woollen Mill goody bag and the store will also mark its arrival in the area with an in-store competition. The first 20 visitors to find envelopes hidden around the store will be rewarded with an Edinburgh Woollen Mill voucher to spend in store.

Theresa Harris, Area Manager for the store in Alton, said: "We are delighted to bring The Edinburgh Woollen Mill to the area and I'm confident the store will be a superb addition to the garden centre.

"Locals are very welcome to stop by the store during our opening celebrations to meet our friendly team who will be on hand to showcase our collections."

The store will feature some of The Edinburgh Woollen Mill's most sought after men's and ladies wear including Country Rose, Isle, Honor Millburn, and James Pringle, as well as a full range of gifts and accessories.

Store address:
Avenue Nurseries Garden Centre
Avenue Road
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Further details on The Edinburgh Woollen Mill product range and store network can be found by visiting **www.ewm.co.uk** and **www.facebook.com/edinburghwoollenmill**.

11th and 12th November

The Christmas Country Show

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AMAZING COOKERY DEMONSTRATIONS
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DEMONSTRATIONS & WORKSHOPS
Make your own wreaths for Christmas, Christmas Wreath Demonstrations, Sugar Paste workshops learn and make something for your Christmas cakes, make Christmas Decorations and lots more...

FOOD AND DRINK
Visit the Food and Drink Market with some amazing producers. Try and taste food made with love and buy yourself something different.

JONATHAN MARSHALL : As seen in Game of Thrones
See some amazing tricks & stunts at the show with the exceptional Jonathan Marshall. Jonathan is not only a horseman but an amazing falconer as well.

Britain's Got Talent finalist: DIMA AND HIS DANCING DOGS
Dima and his Dancing Dogs from Britain's Got Talent finals will be at the Show this year

SOME AMAZING SHOPPING OPPORTUNITIES

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

FESTIVALS OF KIDS –Our children's area is packed this year with so many exciting things to do and a lot of them for free. Why not have a go petting one of the animals with Gemma's Petting Farm, or learn about reptiles and have the chance to hold one of Amazing Reptiles' boa constrictors or a bearded dragon. Watch a fabulous Punch and Judy show or listen to a story. Meet our resident dinosaur as seen on Britain's Got Talent.

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More at the 2017 show: Punch and Judy, Reindeer, Father Christmas, Cookery Demo's, Wreath Making, Donkeys, Shetlands, Reptiles, Alpaca's, Festivals of Dogs, Guinea Pigs, Ferrets, Meercats, Sheep, Rats, Small Furries and LOADS OF FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY www.britishpetshow.co.uk

PROPERTYWEEKLY

Four key trends in new homes design

By Romans Group

Romans' Land & New Homes Managing Director, Tim Foreman gives an overview of the latest trends in the new homes market. From incorporating the hottest interior design trends to catering to home-owners' ever changing needs, the new homes market is constantly evolving and improving.

Gorgeous grey interiors

Grey is an amazingly versatile colour making it a firm favourite amongst interior designers. From living room walls, to sofas, kitchen cabinets and bathroom tiles – this calming, complimentary colour can be found in many new homes developments and show homes.

Bring the outdoors in

Alfresco dining and garden parties are more popular than ever and, to cater for this, more and more developments are coming to the market with bi-fold glass doors and patios on the same level as the rest of the home.

Starter homes

It's been well documented in the media that there is a lack of supply of affordable homes – to counteract this and ease the demand on the market, many developers offer Help to Buy schemes.

Functional contemporary kitchens

Kitchens in new build homes are now incorporating clean lines and functional features such as soft close drawers and doors and clever storage solutions. Although function is a priority, the materials used are high-quality and appliances are often integrated and from leading brands giving a contemporary edge to an otherwise function led space.

If you want to be the first to know when new developments are launching, contact Romans on 0333 9204 412.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

Brand new start for Russell

Russell Brand has been reborn thanks to the birth of his daughter and he wants to share the experience with audiences on his new tour Re:Birth. See inside for more
Picture: Matt Crockett

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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

Brand new show from reborn star

By Josh Cox

RUSSELL Brand has been reborn after the birth of his daughter and you can see the results as he brings his new show to The Anvil.

Learn all about the new Russell in Re:Birth which he says is called that "because it is about how I've been personally reborn as a result of the birth of my daughter".

He added: "But it's also about whether or not there is a thing that you can call your 'essential self', how you can get in contact with it, and how you find your way to the truth of who you are."

When asked about how his partner, Laura, feels about Russell discussing all of the experiences in intimate detail, Brand said: "I do rigorous joke-checks with my girlfriend and I really try and make a pitch for them.

"So far she has only banned one joke and charmingly and typically of her, that was in order to protect the midwife rather than her

"She's been incredibly, may I say, open about the information that she's allowed to be revealed about her most private, personal, bodily details and experiences."

Re:Birth sees Russell return to touring. He said: "I love seeing a different side of Britain, a Britain that feels united and connected.

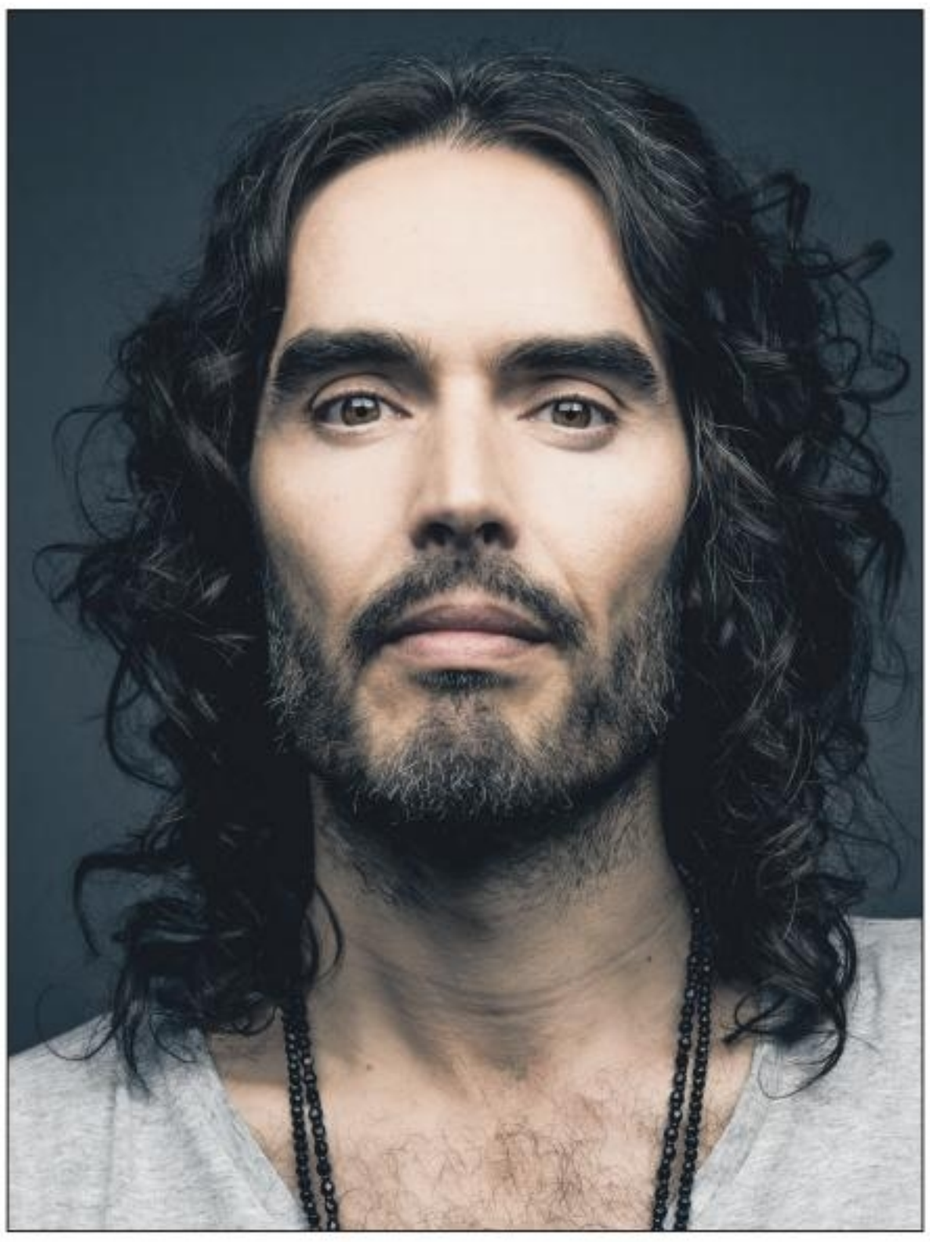
"The thing with my show is that there is a lot of audience interaction, and I get right out there with audience members.

"Before the show I ask the audience to fill in a survey online – and I encourage you to do this if you are coming to the show – it means I can talk to people about their most intimate and personal details.

"It shows you that behind the veneer, behind the veil, under the skin, the people of Britain are insane and interesting."

The show on November 16 is suitable for ages 16 and over. Tickets cost £29.50.

To book tickets or for more information call The Anvil Arts box office on 01256 844244 or visit anvilarts.org.uk.



Russell Brand is back on tour
Picture: Matt Crockett

DJ jamming

MUSIC: DJ Leroy Wilson will be gigging at The Academy in Basingstoke on Saturday.

He will be playing the latest tunes and taking requests and shout outs on the night.

Free for members, £10 in advance or £12 on the door for non-members. Doors open at 8pm, last entry at 10pm

Spider sense

MUSIC: Arachna will be bringing a wide variety of rock and roll covers to The Wheatsheaf in Alton on Saturday.

The five-piece band use a mix of female and male vocals and throw in the occasional instrumental.

The free gig starts at 9pm.

Boogie blues

MUSIC: The Market Hotel in Alton will host Bitter Blues, a five-piece blues and rock band, perform covers on Saturday.

The group are back by popular demand and will be covering artists such as Gary Moore, Free, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Jimi Hendrix, Joe Bonamassa and The Black Crowe.

This free gig starts at 9pm.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

Back to life for Soul II Soul

By Josh Cox

Caron Wheeler and Jazzie B are Soul II Soul

ONE of the biggest British urban acts ever, Soul II Soul revolutionised R'n'B in the 80s and 90s and have kept on moving since.

Featuring Jazzie B, Caron Wheeler and their very special live orchestral band and DJs, the hits just keep on coming including Back to Life, Keep on Moving, Get A Life, and Jazzie's Groove.

"We're from the days when a number 14 bus and a supermarket trolley got us around", Jazzie will tell you when talking about his early sound system days and playing with school friend Daddae.

"We came up with the name Soul II Soul not just because of the music we played, but it also stood for Daddae and myself – two souls moving together."

In 1986, Soul II Soul signed to Virgin and the partnership catapulted them into a tornado of success.

The sound was original, fresh and infectious; it was homegrown in the UK. America embraced them, and in 1990 they picked up two Grammys.

Jazzie B has produced a string of successful cuts for the group and also produced and re-mixed tracks for the likes of The Fine Young Cannibals, Incognito, Maxi Priest, Charlene Smith, Sinead O'Connor and Destiny's Child to name a few.

Somewhere along the line there's been a handshake with Prince Charles and Jazzie B even once shared a dressing room with the legendary Sammy Davis Jnr.

To date, Soul II Soul have sold more than 6.8 million albums worldwide and Jazzie B has accreditation on more than 35 million albums.

2012 saw Soul II Soul awarded the PRS (Performing Right Society) for Music Heritage Award and a special plaque was put up on The Electric (formerly The Fridge) in Brixton, where the group played their first full live gig in 1991.

British pride and achievement continued when Back to Life was featured in the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympics.

Soul II Soul are at The Anvil on November 15. Tickets £36.50. For more information or to book, call the Anvil Arts box office on 01256 844244, or visit the website anvilarts.org.uk.

Gordon's G&T

MUSIC: The Tonic Bar in Basingstoke will be hosting a range of DJs including DJ Gordon Gee, Greg Edwards and Jon Jule.

The over 30s soul night on November 18 will include funk, boogie, RnB, jazz and soul.

Doors open 9pm. Early bird tickets £5 and £7. Entry £10 after 11pm.

Irish superstar

MUSIC: The Irish rockstar Imelda May will be gigging at The Anvil on Tuesday from 7pm.

Imelda May has become one of Ireland's most celebrated female artists. Discovered by Jools Holland, Imelda has gone on to perform alongside legendary artists including Lou Reed and Smokey Robinson.

Tickets between £27 and £37.

Rain-ing supreme

MUSIC: One of the UK's best Prince tribute acts, Purple Rain - A Celebration of Prince will be coming to The Anvil on Sunday at 8pm.

Featuring an eight-piece band and Jimi Love as the embodiment of Prince, you can expect to hear all your favourite songs from one of the most adored artists of all time.

Tickets cost £24.50.

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WORDWHEEL

You have 10 mins to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the hub letter and at least 3 others. Letters may be used only once. You cannot use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one 9-letter word to be found.

How you rate:
15 words, average; 20 words, good; 25 words, very good; 30 or more, excellent.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD

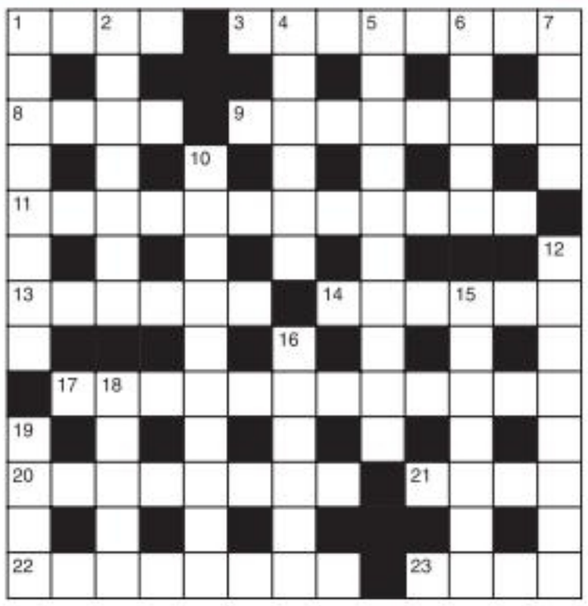
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Boulder won't stay firm apparently (4)
3. View in expectation (8)
8. The objects of producing a first-class manuscript (4)
9. Worker in the theatre? (8)
11. Transfer to nobody but the best (6,2,4)
13. Does it ease the map maker's problems? (6)
14. The sort of seat one doesn't want to leave? (6)
17. Don't leave the furniture behind when you preside! (4,3,5)
20. It's a bind for the doctor (8)
21. The lady swallows a ring intended for her foot (4)
22. Making changes to get a morning finish (8)
23. There's something fishy about this singer (4)

Down

1. Again provide for compensation so as to give confidence (8)
2. Funny confusion of cam and coil (7)
4. Fame comes through getting tree up like this (6)
5. Nesting cry when things are tight (10)
6. Consumed some fine fare at enormous banquet (5)
7. But such pastry may well be sweet (4)
10. Not being impartial, won't be bored (10)
12. Don't have such a ripping time if you want to be dry-eyed (8)
15. Reach at the windpipe (7)
16. No arch ferryman (6)
18. Early English fisherman? (5)
19. A bit of trifle and a little biter (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

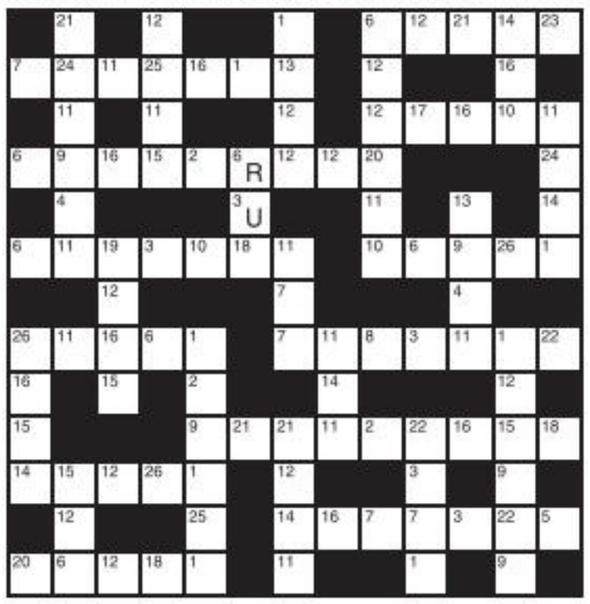
1. Aromatic herb (4)
3. Terrifying (8)
8. Gumption (4)
9. Divert (8)
11. Immense (12)
13. Seduce (6)
14. Connect (6)
17. Combine with others (4,4,4)
20. Muddle (8)
21. Solid (4)
22. Petition (8)
23. Sell (4)

Down

1. Watchman (8)
2. Epicure (7)
4. Hateful (6)
5. Withdrawal (10)
6. Fragile (5)
7. Quote (4)
10. Reckonable (10)
12. Protected (8)
15. Disturb (7)
16. Purpose (6)
18. Separate (5)
19. Island (4)

CODEWORD

Codeword is the crossword puzzle with no clues. The number in each square corresponds to a letter. Work out the words in the grid using the letters provided. Fill in these known letters first, then use skill and judgement to work out the others.



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q ~~R~~ S T ~~U~~ V W X Y Z

1	2	3 U	4	5	6 R	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

DOUBLE CROSSWORD:
Cryptic: Across: 1 Bell-ringers; 9 Haircut; 10 Motto; 11 Niece; 12 Centavo; 13 Enmesh; 15 Writhe; 18 Goggled; 20 Dumps; 22 Avast; 23 Incense; 24 Deerstalker. Down: 2 Elite; 3 Lackeys; 4 Intact; 5 Gamin; 6 Retract; 7 Changes gear; 8 Cotoneaster; 14 Magnate; 16 Radical; 17 Adrift; 19 Later; 21 Manse.
Quick: Across: 1 Catastrophe; 9 Fissure; 10 Cargo; 11 Emend; 12 Largess; 13 Assert; 15 Wilted; 18 Holiday; 20 Polar; 22 Limit; 23 Transit; 24 Information. Down: 2 Aisle; 3 Asunder; 4 Treble; 5 Occur; 6 Harvest; 7 After a while; 8 Considerate; 14 Solomon; 16 Implant; 17 System; 19 Ditto; 21 Lasso.

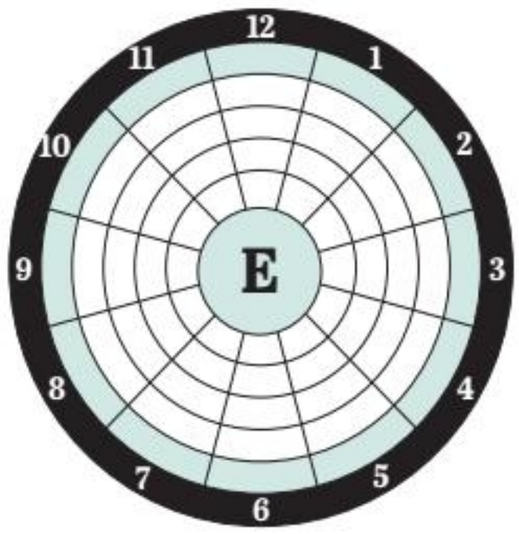
SUDOKU:

2	7	8	3	1	5	4	6	9
5	9	3	7	6	4	8	1	2
4	1	6	9	8	2	3	5	7
8	2	1	6	3	7	5	9	4
7	4	5	1	2	9	6	8	3
3	6	9	5	4	8	7	2	1
9	8	7	2	5	3	1	4	6
1	3	4	8	9	6	2	7	5
6	5	2	4	7	1	9	3	8

CODEWORD:
1=S, 2=C, 3=V, 4=O, 5=F, 6=D, 7=A, 8=Y, 9=T, 10=P, 11=U, 12=G, 13=X, 14=I, 15=K, 16=M, 17=Q, 18=B, 19=J, 20=N, 21=L, 22=R, 23=E, 24=Z, 25=H, 26=W.
WORD WHEEL:
BETROTHAL.

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter E in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a British actor.



1. Rubbish
2. Put on
3. Situate
4. Oar
5. Obstacle
6. Catlike
7. Revenue
8. Motor
9. Beginner
10. Spout
11. Whole
12. Easy

NINER

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

THE CLUES:

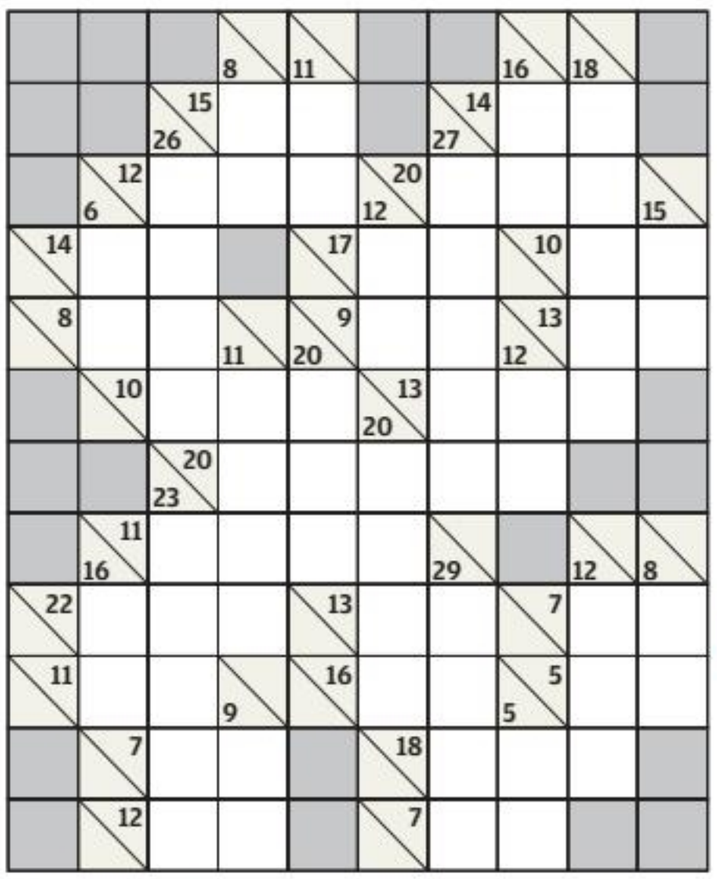
35617958 gives an item of clothing;
176814 gives an item of clothing;
976142 gives an item of clothing.

KAKURO

Fill in the white squares with the numbers 1 to 9.

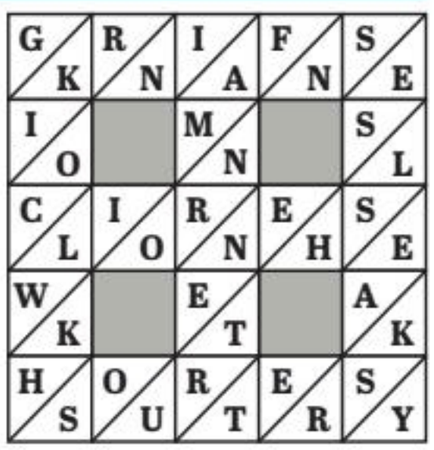
Each horizontal block of squares must add up to the number in the shaded square to its left, and each vertical block must add up to the number in the shaded square above it.

No number may be used more than once in any one block.



SPLIT DECISION

Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.



SUDOKU

	3		7			8		
6			4		8			
			6			1		4
3	9	6					5	
	1					4	6	2
4		3			7			
			5		2			9
		2			6		1	

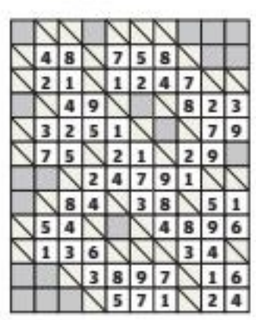
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

CLOCKWORD:
1 Pimple, 2 Admire, 3 Unique, 4 League, 5 Needle, 6 Inhale, 7 Castle, 8 Hurtle, 9 Orange, 10 Lustre, 11 Lounge, 12 Sphere.

CELEBRITY: Paul Nicholls.

NINER:
HAMSTRUNG.

KAKURO:



SUDOKU:

3	8	1	9	4	5	7	2	6
7	2	6	8	1	3	5	4	9
4	9	5	7	6	2	8	1	3
2	7	3	1	5	6	4	9	8
6	1	9	4	8	7	3	5	2
8	5	4	2	3	9	6	7	1
9	6	8	5	7	1	2	3	4
1	4	7	3	2	8	9	6	5
5	3	2	6	9	4	1	8	7

SPLIT DECISION:

A	L	I	B	I
N		M		N
G	R	A	S	P
S		G		U
T	R	E	A	T

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Competition

WIN tickets to see Lulu at The Anvil

WE always try to bring you an exciting competition in the Observer, but this week we think we may have got the best one yet.

After some hard negotiating with the lovely folk at The Anvil we have managed to get two pairs of tickets to see one of the most highly acclaimed singers that this country has produced - Lulu!

Following on from her smash hit 2016 tour, Lulu returns with her biggest tour yet and comes to The Anvil on Friday 24 November. at 7:30.

Closing date: Sunday, Nov 19

There is one overriding influence in the life of this acclaimed singer, songwriter, actress, businesswoman, Grammy and Novello Award nominee, and that is it has always been 'All About the Music'.

Performing songs from a career spanning over 50 years, fans can expect to hear huge hits such as Shout, To Sir With Love, Relight My Fire and The Man Who Sold The World, as well as new songs and songs that have influenced and guided her throughout her incredible career.

Lulu says "I toured for the first time in 15 years in 2015 and haven't stopped since. I absolutely love playing live and can't wait to be out on the road again performing the music that I have shared with you throughout my career... it has always been all about the music... so please come and join me".

Tickets are priced at £41 (includes £2 booking fee). For more details or for tickets, call 01256 844244 or visit anvilarts.org.uk

Win tickets!

As mentioned above we have two pairs of tickets to give away and to be in with a chance of winning one all you have to do is answer the following simple question:

Q: Where was Lulu born?
Ireland, Scotland or Wales?

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to **www.basingstokeobserver.co.uk or**

For full terms & conditions go to www.observergroup.co.uk/about-us

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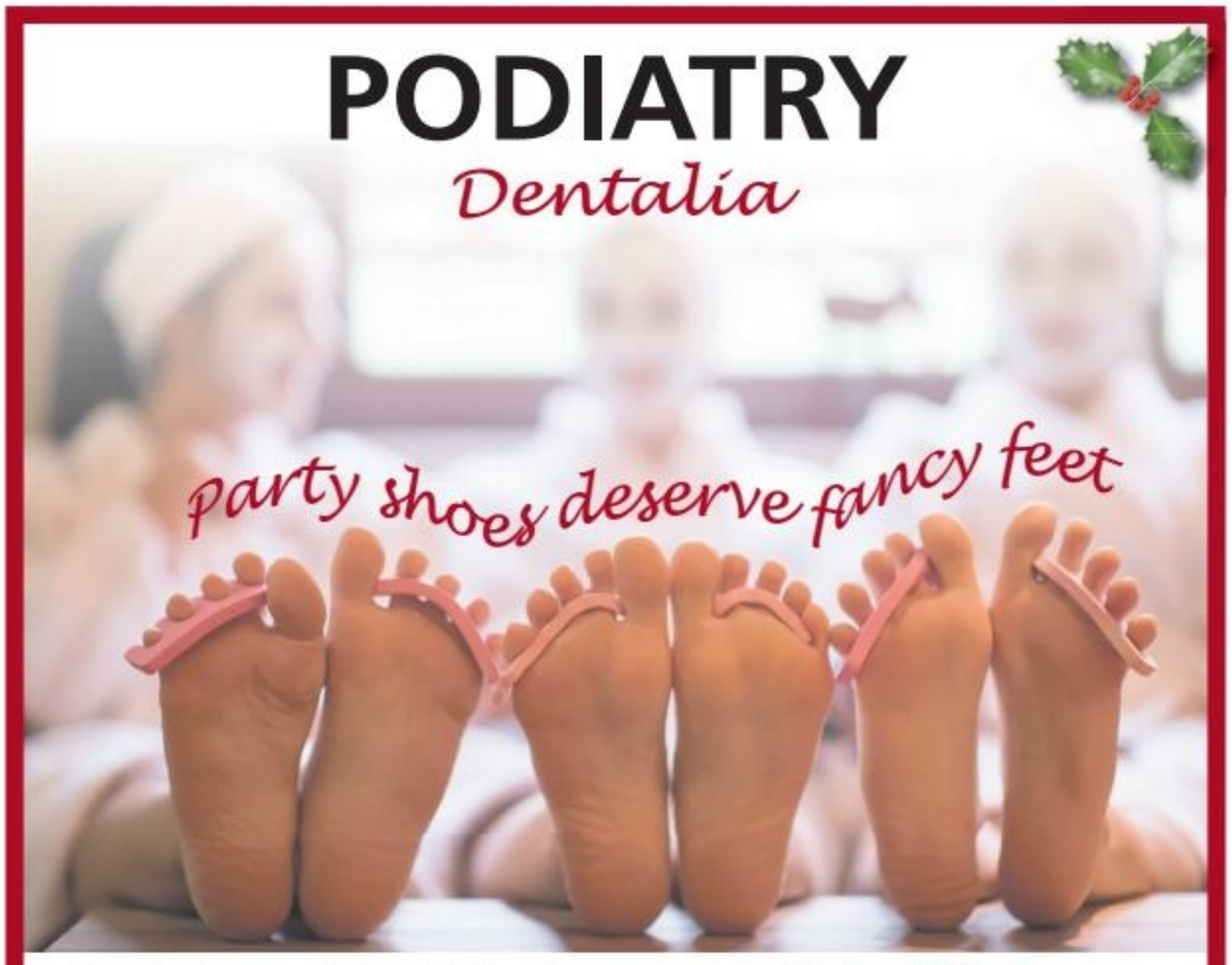
Dentalia



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Audi Q5 2.0 TDi Quattro 190PS S Line, S Tronic

Looks good and drives even better

By **Tony Yates**

I'm not sure about you – but when I first set my eyes on the Q5, I thought 'man its big' – but then as you start to look around at what else is on the road, you begin to notice that actually, it's really not that big at all, compared to its competition.

Then when you finally get behind the wheel and start driving the Q5, it actually feels no bigger than a medium-sized saloon – which to be honest for a large SUV is amazing.

Power & efficiency

The Q5 I had on test was fitted with a 190PS, 2.0-litre TDI direct injection diesel engine that has 400NM of torque and can accelerate from zero-to-62 mph in 7.9 seconds and will reach a maximum top speed of around 135mph.

The Q5 is also equipped with a Stop/Start system to enhance fuel economy which all helped the Q5 return a combined figure of around 50mpg using my normal driving route – plus a bit of motorway driving.

On the road

The steering is accurate in whatever situation unfolds itself on the road and the chassis and grip levels are all good thanks to that wonderful 'Quattro' system. The Q5 is also a very engaging drive, but you need to remember that this car is not a raw seat of your pants drive - even with the S Line & S Tronic badges nailed to the tailgate.

When you do finally find the right road to get the hammer down, the Q5 fits in perfectly with the road ahead thanks to independent suspension and a five-link axle with a front track rod, aluminium link subframe and tubular anti-roll bar at the front & rear.

As I said before, the Q5 comes with that wonderful Quattro on-demand system that is designed to switch between all-wheel drive and front-wheel drive in a fraction of a second by monitoring driving dynamics, road conditions and driver behaviour.

Design & technology

Equipment highlights include; Dual-circuit brake system, Antilock Braking System, Electronic Brake Force Distribution (EBD) Electronic Differential Lock (EDL) Traction Control (ASR) Electronic Stabilisation Control (ESC).

Good features and a firm sense of reliability help make the Audi Q5 a brilliant car

Then we move onto the inside. For a start off, there is now more headroom, legroom and cabin space on the inside compared to the previous model. Plus, Audi has used premium materials on the inside of the Q5 and nothing looks cheaply made. Then there are the controls – set out to be as ergonomic as possible and have that quality feel to them throughout the interior.

Some of the standard equipment includes; 19" x 8.0J '5-twin-spoke star' design, diamond cut finish alloy wheels, S line exterior body styling, LED headlights with Q signature design, LED rear lights and dynamic indicators, Front Sport seats with 'S' embossed logo in leather/Alcantara, Inlays in matt brushed aluminium, high multi-function 3-spoke leather steering wheel with grips in perforated leather. Gear-lever knob in black perforated leather, illuminated door sill trims with 'S' logo, privacy glass, contrast stitching on seats, steering wheel and gear lever gaiter.

Plus, 4-way electric lumbar support, LED Interior Lighting Pack, MMI Navigation (SD card-based), Audi Connect Infotainment ServicesPlus (3-month trial – then 36-month subscription available) I could go on..

To sum up

The Q5 is a brilliant car – but what makes it stand out from the rest is its ability to look good and drive even better. I would not rule out taking a look at the Audi Q5 in the future because it has some great features along with a good chassis and a firm sense of reliability on its side.

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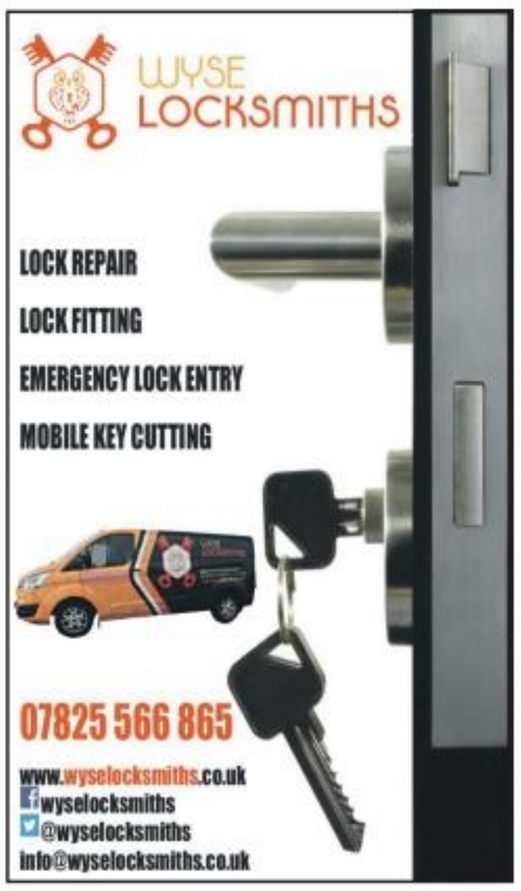

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Observer Sport

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THIS WEEK: WIN A PAIR OF TICKETS TO SEE LULU AT THE ANVIL!

Bison notch up 10 wins in 10

By George Welch

IMPRESSIVE Basingstoke Bison brushed aside Milton Keynes Thunder and Telford Tigers to extend their unrelenting winning run to 10 games.

Despite being short benched, the Herd kept their remarkable run going with a 7-2 home league win against the Thunder on Saturday and a 4-2 victory at the Tigers in the National Cup the following day.

There were seven goals and seven different scorers against Milton Keynes, as Tomas Karpov got the home side up and running on eight minutes.

Tom Carlon pulled one back for the Thunder five minutes later – but that was the high-point for the visitors.

First period goals from Ivan Antonov and Roman Malinik and second period strikes from Aaron Connolly, Oscar Evans and Grant Rounding put Bison 6-1 up.

Gareth O'Flaherty netted Thunder's second just before the second period buzzer, but Daniel Davies restored the host's five-goal cushion with nine minutes remaining to round off the victory.

Basingstoke enjoyed less goalscoring fun in their National Cup Group D match the following day, but still left Telford as 4-2 winners to pick up only their second outright win in seven cup games.

Connolly struck first and last for Bison, his goals sandwiching second period goals from Ryan Sutton and Davies.

The Tigers scored twice in the final 17 minutes but there was no way back for them.

Head coach Doug Sheppard was once again full of praise for his victorious team. He said: "We had an excellent weekend and proved that hard work will bring rewards.

"I'm very pleased. I'm pleased with our skill level and our work ethic. Things are starting to come together even though we are having terrible luck with injuries.

"We came up here [to Telford] with just 12 skaters and lost two defenceman in the game.

"I think it was our best and most complete game of the season so far; we worked extremely hard, we were short on numbers but guys that were out there competed hard."

Bison host Swindon Wildcats in the National Cup Saturday and travel to Milton Keynes for the return league match on Sunday.

Captain Aaron Connolly found the back of the net three times, once against the Thunder and twice against the Tigers. Picture: grantkingphotography.com

Last-gasp penalty saves Stoke's blushes away from home

Ben Wright scored a last minute penalty to rescue a point for Basingstoke Town against King's Langley. Picture: Steve Gridley

A last-minute Ben Wright penalty made sure Basingstoke Town avoided a sixth successive away defeat with a 1-1 draw at King's Langley on Saturday.

The former Peterborough United striker struck after Sam Smart was tripped in the box as the Dragons extended their winless run away from home to eight matches.

It was a game that lacked explosiveness on bonfire weekend, although 'Stoke nearly started with a bang when Sam Argent found the back of the net early on, only for the offside to deny the big striker.

Langley stopper Martin Bennett had to be alert to keep out a deflected Wright effort and a powerful shot from Argent before the former struck the bar with a lob.

Despite the away side's pressure, Kings took the lead when Brendan Orcan struck six minutes before the break with a nice strike from inside the area.

Smart forced Bennett into a save as Terry Brown's side chased an equaliser before the break but the second half had few chances.

Basingstoke goalie Colm McAdden produced a superb save to deny Mitchell Weiss.

The save was as impressive as it was a turning point as the home side conceded a final minute penalty.

Wright made no mistake from the spot for Basingstoke's first away draw of the season, a result that moved them up a position to 15th in the Southern League Premier Division table.

'Stoke are through to the third round of the Southern League Cup following a 4-1 win at Moneyfields on Tuesday.

Sam Smart's first half strike put the away side in control by half time and Callum Bunting smashed in a second half hat-trick as the Dragons bulldozed their lower league opposition on the south coast.

Basingstoke return to league action when they host Biggleswade Town at the Camrose on Saturday.

Row steer their way to another impressive victory

HARTLEY Wintney closed the gap at the top of the table with a resounding 7-0 home win against Barton Rovers.

The Row are five points off the Evo-Stik South East summit following their biggest win of the season and Moneyfields' weekend draw.

Star of the show Jake Baxter netted four of the goals – with two in each half – on a fantastic afternoon for Daniel Brownlie and Anthony Millerick's side.

Liam Eagle got Hartley up and running on 26 minutes before Baxter scored a brace for a 3-0 half time lead, his first being especially clinical.

Jack French added number four with a low drive before Baxter scored his third of the afternoon with a header on the hour.

The striker's fourth came via a simple tap-in and veteran forward Rowan Vine rounded off a perfect display with goal number seven two minutes from time.

High-scoring Row have also won 6-1 three times and 5-1 twice so far this season.

Tuesday's game at home to Marlow in the Southern League Cup was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

Hartley, who remain in third place, host Gosport Borough in the FA Trophy second qualifying round on Saturday.

Sport Bites

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BASINGSTOKE Town Ladies are on look out for sponsors to help boost the club.

Town have two teams at the club, with the first team playing in the Women's Premier League South West Division One, the fourth tier of the national game.

The club play their home games at the Winklebury Football Complex, which is where the men's team are looking to move to next season.

Anyone wishing to became a sponsor can get in contact with the club via basingstoke-ladiesfc@hotmail.co.uk or telephone the club's treasurer on 07921544711.

Buffalo victory

BASINGSTOKE Buffalo put their back-to-back thrashings at the hands of Oxford City Stars behind them by getting back to winning ways on Sunday.

Basingstoke's second ice hockey team beat Slough Jets 6-5 at home to climb up to eighth in NIHL South 2.

The mid-table side travel to pointless Swindon Wildcats 2 on Saturday.

Slip after defeat

TADLEY Calleva lost their first game in five matches to slip two places and lose their grip at the top of the Wessex League Division One table.

They lost 3-2 at Alton on Saturday while Whitchurch United were well-beaten 4-1 at Romsey Town, who leapfrog Tadley as a result.

Tadley have games in hand to climb back up the table and travel to Ringwood Town. Whitchurch host Folland Sports on Saturday.

An improvement?

BASINGSTOKE RFC picked up their best result of the season on Saturday, although the 48-22 defeat at home to Trojans won't fill the club with confidence.

'Stoke have now lost all eight of their London 3 South West matches and remain rooted to the bottom on a solitary point.

They will hope for better luck when they travel to eighth-placed Petersfield on Saturday.

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Inside: Buffalo put defeats behind them with win | Row score seven to close gap | Last-minute penalty rescues a point for Stoke

Another week, another win for Rose in the Race to Dubai

Sensational weekend rounds

By George Welch

JUSTIN Rose produced a sensational finish to secure back-to-back titles and continue his march to the summit of the European Tour's Race to Dubai rankings.

The north Hampshire golfer had his hands on his second piece of silverware in as many Sunday's following an astounding weekend to clinch the Turkish Airlines Open by a shot.

The Olympic champion started steadily in Antalya but another come-from-behind success made it £2.1m in earnings in eight days and gave him a shot at a second Race to Dubai title.

Rose, who came from eight shots behind to win the WGC-HSBC Champions in China the week before, gradually forced his way up the leaderboard after a fairly modest opening round of 69 compared to the rest of the field.

Starting on the first hole, he opened the tournament with a birdie and double bogey but picked up with three more birdies to leave him tied 19th and five shots off the lead.

Friday's second round, starting from the 11th tee, was healthier with three birdies and 15 pars, lifting the 37-year-old up to 13th.

But Rose saved the fireworks for the weekend as round three opened with three gained shots in the opening five holes.

And the back nine proved even more fruitful, picking up four birdies on the trot from 12 through 15 to card a mightily impressive and joint tournament best of 64 and propel him up to third.

Only two shots behind leaders Shane Lowry and Kiradech Aphibarnrat heading into the final round, Rose could sense another comeback was on the cards.

Following three birdies and a bogey on the front nine, it was the back nine that once again proved his strength.

Birdies on 12, 15, 16 and 18 were enough for another title winning celebration – just.

Dylan Frittelli and Nicolas Colsaerts put in fine performances of seven-under and five-under par respectively to push Rose all the way.

But Rose birdied the final hole to snatch victory by a shot ahead of Frittelli and Colsaerts.

World number six Rose, who won the Race to Dubai title in 2007, moved from third in this year's race to replace second-ranked Sergio Garcia and now only trails compatriot Tommy Fleetwood by €134,893.

Bison's Grant Rounding is sent flying by a Milton Keynes Thunder player on Saturday. Picture: grantkingphotography.com

Two more wins add to Bison's flying start

You can trip Grant Rounding up but there was no stopping Basingstoke Bison stampeding to their ninth and 10th wins in a row at the weekend.
Bison picked up maximum points from their 7-2 league win at home to Milton Keynes Thunder and 4-2 victory at Telford Tigers in the National Cup.
Head coach Doug Sheppard praised his depleted side's performance as the "best and most complete game of the season so far".

See inside for the full story.

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